

Application No. 09/735401  
Page 2

*Amendment*

~~Please add new claims 69-84 as follows:~~

69.(New) The stent of claim 61 further comprising a plurality of serpentine bands extending about the circumference of the stent.

70.(New) The stent of claim 69 wherein at least some of the serpentine bands extending about the circumference of the stent abut one another.

71.(New) The stent of claim 70 wherein some adjacent serpentine bands are connected to one another via a connector which extends between the adjacent serpentine bands.

72.(New) The stent of claim 69 having a taper.

73.(New) The stent of claim 61 having a taper.

74.(New) The stent of claim 72 wherein the inner diameter of the stent is constant over the length of the stent and the outer diameter has a taper.

75.(New) The stent of claim 73 wherein the inner diameter of the stent is constant over the length of the stent and the outer diameter has a taper.

76.(New) The stent of claim 65 further comprising a plurality of serpentine bands extending about the circumference of the stent.

77.(New) The stent of claim 76 wherein at least some of the serpentine bands extending about the circumference of the stent abut one another.

78.(New) The stent of claim 77 wherein some adjacent serpentine bands are connected to one another via a connector which extends between the adjacent serpentine bands.

79.(New) The stent of claim 76 having a taper.

80.(New) The stent of claim 65 having a taper.

81.(New) The stent of claim 79 wherein the inner diameter of the stent is constant over the length of the stent and the outer diameter has a taper.

82.(New) The stent of claim 80 wherein the inner diameter of the stent is constant over the length of the stent and the outer diameter has a taper.

83.(New) A method of manufacturing a stent comprising the steps of:  
providing a tube having a wall;  
removing material from the wall of the tube so as to form a plurality of struts in the wall, the struts having an oval cross-section.